

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 230909

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DRAFTED BY EUR/CAN:KKJONIETZ:RM
APPROVED BY EUR/CAN:JHROUSE, JR.
GAS:PGALLAGHER
GSA:CWPENLAND
GAS:RFMATTHEIS
JUSTICE:JKEEFE
JUSTICE:WAMORRIS
TREASURY:KKNIGHT
TREASURY:LTYSKA SCA-JCARTER
L/EUR:KSGUDGEON

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R 172008Z SEP 76
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

UNCLAS STATE 230909

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OCON, CA, US

SUBJECT: CONFERENCE ON COMMON BORDER STATIONS

1. BACKGROUND: FOR A NUMBER OF YEARS THE GENERAL SERVICE ADMINISTRATION AND OTHER INTERESTED FEDERAL AGENCIES HAVE ON A PIECEMEAL BASIS, BEEN EXPLORING THE POSSIBILITIES FOR COOPERATION AT BORDER STATION SITES WITH VARIOUS ELEMENTS OF THE CANADIAN GOVERNMENT. SUCH COOPERATION COULD TAKE THE FORM OF THE JOINT CONSTRUCTION AND USE OF NEW POSTS A SELECTED LOCATIONS (WITH EACH COUNTRY'S CUSTOMS AND IMMIGRATION OFFICIALS CONTINUING TO FUNCTION, BY AND LARGE, AS THEY DO AT PRESENT), OR IT COULD MERELY MEAN AN ARRANGEMENT WHEREBY UTILITY COSTS WOULD BE SHARED AND SERVICES PROVIDED TO SEPARATE US AND CANADIAN BORDER POSTS FROM THE NEAREST
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PAGE 02 STATE 230909

PRACTICAL SOURCE, EITHER CANADIAN OR AMERICAN.

2. IF THE EMBASSY PERCEIVES NO OBJECTION, THE DEPARTMENT REQUESTS DELIVERY OF THE FOLLOWING NOTE TO THE CANADIAN GOVERNMENT.

3. BEGIN TEXT: THE EMBASSY OF THE UNITED STATES PRESENTS ITS COMPLIMENTS TO THE GOC AND HAS THE HONOR TO INVITE THE ATTENTION OF THE CANADIAN GOVERNMENT TO THE MUTUAL BENEFITS, BOTH IN TERMS OF COST-SAVINGS AND EFFICIENCY,

WHICH COULD RESULT FROM CLOSER COOPERATION IN THE DESIGN, CONSTRUCTION, AND OPERATION OF COMMON CUSTOMS AND IMMIGRATION FACILITIES ALONG THE BOUNDARY.

TO THIS END, THE USG WISHES TO SOLICIT THE ATTENDANCE OF APPROPRIATE CANADIAN GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS AT AN EXPLORATORY MEETING TO BE HELD AT A MUTUALLY CONVENIENT TIME AND LOCATION.

THE SUBJECT MEETING WOULD FOCUS ON, BUT WOULD NOT BE LIMITED TO: 1) A CONSIDERATION OF COST SAVINGS WHICH COULD BE ACHIEVED BY:

--JOINT DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION OF COMMON FACILITIES TO BE USED BY THE IMMIGRATION AND CUSTOMS SERVICES OF BOTH COUNTRIES.

--SINGLE SOURCE PROVISION OF UTILITIES, MAINTENANCE AND CUSTODIAL SERVICES.

2) THE LEGAL AND PRACTICAL CONSIDERATIONS WHICH WOULD ATTEND SUCH A PROGRAM OF CONSTRUCTION AND OPERATION.

COMPLIMENTARY CLOSE. END TEXT.

4. THE EMBASSY IS TO SUGGEST ORALLY THAT WE WOULD BE PLEASED TO WELCOME A CANADIAN DELEGATION TO WASHINGTON IN MID-NOVEMBER 1976. ROBINSON

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